

Peter Senius Schow and how he came to Lehi

By Alvin Schow

My Grandfather and his two brothers came from Denmark when my Grandfather was seventeen years of age. They had heard about the gold rush in California and they were headed to California for gold. And it was just after the train system had been completed, so they were riding on the train across the country.

They got in conversation with a gentleman who told them not to stop off in Utah. And of course, they didn't know anything about Mormons at that time or anything about what he was saying because they were just going to California for gold. So they made a wager with him that they could stop off in Utah for a year and then go on to California to get their gold. And when they got here they came to Lehi to work, principally in mines in the area up American Fork Canyon and the mines out to the west, west of the lake.

While they were here, the two brothers married two sisters, the Willis sisters. My Grandfather married a widow. They were all converted to the Church and none of them left Lehi. So they lost their wager. They never went to California for gold.

George Schow's family went to work for the sugar company. When the sugar company closed here in Lehi, he went to Tremonton, then to Idaho and up into Canada. That family followed the sugar industry up into that area. So we have relatives in Canada that went there with the sugar company when the sugar company closed here.

